Numb. 4966

The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Thursday February 14. to Saturday February 16. 1711.

Whitehall, February 13.

This Day arriv'd here the Lord Forbes from Barcelona, with the following Account.

THE Siege of the Caſtle of Cardona having continued above a Month, the Mareſchal Staremberg form'd a Deſign for Relieving the Place; and purſuant thereto, on the Seventeenth of December, N. S. he detach'd four hundred choſen Grenadiers from the Army under the Command of Colonel Edward Stanhope, to join Lieutenant-General Pathee at the Bridge of Malagarega, who had been thereabouts during the beſt part of the Siege, with a Detachment of two thouſand Men from our Army, together with the Miquelets and Voluntiers, to lay hold on any Occaſion that ſhould offer of ſuccouring the Place. On the Eighteenth, Colonel Stanhope, with his Detachment, join'd Lieutenant-General Pathee; the ſame Day Count Traun likewiſe arriv'd with the Mareſchal's Directions. The Nineteenth, and part of the Twentieth, was ſpent in the neceſſary Preparations for the enſuing Action. The Twentieth, at Five in the Evening, all our Detachments began to march towards Cardona in the following Order.

The Cavalry, with the Huſſars and Voluntiers of Caſanova, commanded by Baron Aſpee, were ordered to poſſeſs themſelves of the Plain of Plantada, to hinder the Enemy's Cavalry from paſſing the Bridge of St. John; after theſe march'd Colonel Stanhope, with four hundred Grenadiers and a hundred and fifty Foot; Count Guel accompany'd him as Voluntier, and had alſo the Command of two hundred Grenadiers more; the Miquelets follow'd theſe, to the number of four hundred, led by Lieutenant-Colonel Geſchwint; after whom came all the Proviſions for the Caſtle; and in the Rear of all march'd the remainder of our Detachment, conſiſting of eight hundred Foot, and two Battalions, one of the Regiment of Geſchwint, and the other of Oſnabroug, commanded by the Colonels Schonbourg and Roharr, together with five hundred Imperial diſmounted Dragoons, commanded by Colonel Beaufort; Lieutenant-General Nabot, with a good number of Miquelets and Voluntiers, march'd by the way of the Redoubt on the Hill of Colamena, and join'd the Lieutenant-Colonel of Schonberg's, who had with him four hundred and fifty Foot, for to attack the Redoubt. The Twenty-firſt, at Five in the Morning, Count Guel, with his Detachment of two thouſand Grenadiers, march'd to attack the Poſts which the Enemies poſſeſs'd on the Heights above their Camp, on the ſide of the Eſcurial. Colonel Stanhope march'd at the ſame time to attack thoſe Poſts in another Place, and made himſelf Maſter of them, after a very warm Diſpute, in which we took Priſoner Count Melon, one of the Enemies Brigadiers, who ſoon after dy'd of his Wounds. Upon the loſs of this Poſt, the Enemy immediately form'd twelve Companies of Grenadiers, and four Battalions in the Plain of the Eſcurial, and attack'd our Grenadiers on the Hill with ſo much Reſolution, that they put them into great Diſorder; but Colonel Stanhope with the few that ſtood firm, defended the top of the Hill with the utmoſt Bravery, till the Officers he had ſent to rally the Men, had brought them up again; and then he attack'd the Enemy with puſh of Bayonet, that he drove them precipitately down the Hill, killing four hundred of them on the ſpot, and twenty two Officers; but in this Engagement he receiv'd a mortal Wound, of which he dy'd on the Twenty-third: His remarkable Bravery in the Defence of this Poſt, was eſteem'd as a principal Occaſion of the happy iſſue of this important Affair: During this Diſpute, General Nabot, with his Party, carry'd a Redoubt on the Colomena; the Enemy endeavour'd to re take it, but were repuls'd with great loſs. The Lieutenant-Colonel of Schonberg, that was of Nabot's Party, at the ſame time attack'd that Poſt which was on the other ſide of the Eſcurial, and carry'd it with great ſlaughter of the Enemy, and march'd immediately from thence to join Colonel Stanhope, who had repuls'd the Enemy before. Lieutenant-General Pathee finding our ſeveral Attacks to ſucceed ſo well, march'd up the remainder of his Detachment, to make good the Poſt we had taken. The Twenty-ſecond, at Noon, the Detachment deſign'd for the Succour of the Caſtle, began their march towards the Place, each Soldier carrying a quantity of Proviſion or Ammunition on his back; Colonel Rohair at the ſame time advanc'd with four hundred Foot, under the favour of the fire of the Cannon of the Caſtle, to poſſeſs the Heights on the other ſide of the River, where the Enemy were poſted with four hundred Foot, two hundred Grenadiers, and four Pieces of Cannon; General Nabot advanc'd likewiſe on one ſide, with four hundred Miquelets, and Colonel Beaufort on the other, with three hundred diſmounted Dragoons, to attack them on either Flank; but the Enemy abandon'd their Poſts and Cannon, without any reſiſtance, upon the firſt appearance of theſe Troops, Colonel Rohar having made himſelf Maſter of this Poſt, the Succours entred without farther impediment. The Enemy by this time had made a ſecond Attack upon our Grenadiers on the Hill, with the ſame Troops that attack'd them the Day before; but were again repuls'd and drove over the River, with the loſs of ſix hundred Men; the Colonel St. Martin, and ſeveral other Officers were taken Priſoners: Upon which the Enemy aſſembling together from their ſeveral Encampments, march'd off leaving behind them fourteen Pieces of Battering-Cannon, four Field-pieces, and four Mortars, with all their Ammunition, Tents, and Baggage, and all their Sick and Wounded, amongſt whom was a Colonel and ſeveral Field-Officers; and beſides theſe, they loſt in the two Days Action above Two thouſand Men, beſides Officers. We, on our ſide, had not above Two hundred Men and Three Officers Kill'd. General Nabot, with his Miquelets and Volunteers, purſued them, and did them conſiderable Damage till they join'd their Army on the Twenty-fourth, about which time our Detachment likewiſe join'd our Army. The Twenty-fifth, about Two in the Morning, the Duke of Vendoſme taking the Opportunity of a thick Fog (which is common in thoſe Hills from Mid-night till Mid-day) march'd off with his whole Army, leaving